



## THE TULALIP TRIBES

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The Tulalip Tribes are the successors  
in interest to the Snohomish,  
Snoqualmie and Skykomish tribes  
and other tribes and band signatory  
to the Treaty of Point Elliott.

Mr. Jeff Kenknight  
Groundwater Specialist  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Sixth Ave, MS-OW-137  
Seattle, WA 98101

October 23, 2001

RE: MBR Wastewater Treatment Plant

Mr. Kenknight;

As you are aware from previous discussions with our staff and consultants, the Tribe is in the process of constructing a new wastewater treatment plant on the Reservation using Kobota membranes rather than clarifiers to treat the final effluent. Based on our analysis of other operating plants, we are persuaded that this plant will produce an effluent appropriate for reused on trust lands for groundwater augmentation. While groundwater augmentation is one of our primary goals, we anticipate eventually applying for an NPDES permit and discharging effluent to on-reservation streams for salmon enhancement.

When the plant commences operation, we will have an extensive sampling/testing program in place to monitor the process, the plant effluent, monitoring wells adjacent to infiltration systems, and wells adjacent to a constructed wetland. This program will provide the basis and data analysis for the eventual permit. The current wastewater forecast indicates that we will likely prepare the permit near the end of the first years operation in order to be well prepared to either discharge to salmon rearing ponds and/or to drainage troughs in the business park.

As we continue the engineering and construction of this plant, we will keep you informed of our progress. I encourage you and other staff members to comment on our efforts to provide a clean effluent for reuse on the Reservation.

The Tulalip Tribes of Washington,

Herman A. Williams, Jr.  
Chairman

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